# Information Technology Business Case – Section A Miami-Dade County – FY 2005-06

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**Directions:** Please complete shaded areas below



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Department Name: Finance
Project Name: Develop and Implement an Unclaimed Check Web Application (Intra & Inter)
Project Amount: \$150,000
Preparer Name & Contact Information: Connie White, 305-375-3738, vaw@miamidade.gov
<b>3</b>
Project Type: Please check (√) one.
X Enterprise Communities of Interest Department Specific
Funding Source: Please check (√) one.
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W 250 %
X GF Capital Proprietary Capital
Mandated Requirement
(If checked $()$ , please indicate who is mandating this request as well as the time frame)
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## **Section A**

## **Background:**

Currently, per Florida Statute 717, the Finance Department prepares and submits to the State of Florida, on an annual basis, all unclaimed checks in order to meet the requirement set forth by the Statute. The compilation, preparation and forwarding of this information and funds require extensive research on behalf of the Finance Department and other County departments' personnel. Additionally, the Finance Department also handles many requests regarding unclaimed property information by companies seeking this type of data or individuals that have specific questions regarding their own claims. Fulfilling these requests requires significant manual research by Finance Department staff.

#### **Problem Statement:**

Manual and inefficient methods to research and report unclaimed property to State of Florida and to citizens of Miami-Dade County.

# Solution:

Provide an internet website for "unclaimed checks" giving access to the citizens of Miami-Dade County to research and inquire on such property before it is escheated to the State of Florida.

Provide an intranet website for "unclaimed checks" giving County departments' personnel access on a timely basis to current information and aging of unclaimed checks. This will also maintain and readily produce the data in the format required for submission to the State. In addition this website will provide the departments with another research engine for payment status.

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# **Expected Benefits / Direct Payback:**

## **Expected Benefits:**

- (1) Reduce research time and expedite filing time with the State by having information available on-line and updated on a monthly basis, Finance and County departments will be able to reduce the research time it currently takes to determine the status of unclaimed checks.
- (2) Provide citizens with information regarding unclaimed property (currently, this information can ONLY be obtained from the State).
- (3) Reduce the funds that are escheated to the State of Florida on an annual basis for unclaimed checks, and put the unclaimed proceeds in the hands of the appropriate party on a more timely basis.

Who benefits? – (1) Citizens who would be able to research the unclaimed checks and apply for re-issuance before checks must be escheated to the State; (2) Departments that will get timely information to research their issued and unclaimed checks including aging reports; and (3) Finance department that will be able to reduce the amount of time required to forward the required information to the State and respond to citizens requests for unclaimed checks.